SOUND THE TRUMPET IN PRAYER

**And if you go to war in your land against the enemy that opresseth you, then ye shall blow an alarm with the trumpets; and ye shall be remembered before the Lord your God, and ye shall be saved from your enemies (Numbers 10:9).**

A Greater Promise

In this world people are given labels according to who their parents are, where they were born, what life has thrown at them, and for the things they have done. These are not who they are, but labels can dictate the outcome of said person’s life if they are embraced and believed. We do not have to receive a label. We can reject worldly labels if we believe in a greater “Promised Land” than what we see in the natural. While the Promised Land God gave the children of Israel was and is real, God has given us a greater promise. It is not a promise that is predicated upon whether one is born of so-called “royal blood”, born in a good neighborhood into a “good” family, or even if they have lived a so-called “good and perfect”, crime-free life. This is an eternal promise that is so powerful it can carry over into one’s past; bringing good out of bad in a miraculous way that no one can understand. This is the Power of God unto Salvation.

One thing that must never be forgotten no matter how things look or what we have done is that God is faithful. Man’s wickedness cannot cancel out God’s faithfulness. Poverty cannot, sin cannot, foolishness cannot, man’s “so-called wisdom”, nor limited understanding, and ignorance cannot. Moses was a man called by God, but Moses was anything but perfect. In fact, it can be said, the opposite was true. He murdered (see Exodus 2:14), failed to carry out the covenant of circumcision (see Exodus 4:24-26), and failed to listen to God’s instruction at the waters of Meribah-kadesh (see Deuteronomy 32:51). It was for this transgression that God told Moses he would not enter the Promised Land. Moses did not enter this land, God only allowed him to see it. Therefore, it may seem that Moses’ mistake destroyed all hope for him, but by remembering God’s faithfulness and His mercy; we can believe that Moses received a greater promise.

In spite of his shortcomings, the righteousness of Moses is mentioned throughout scripture. No prophet arose again like Moses, who God spoke with face to face (see Deuteronomy 34:10). To this day no one knows where the body of Moses is, not even satan. We learn this was of interest to the devil, as he was said to dispute this with the Archangel Michael, whom would give him no answer, only a well deserved rebuke. It is written, **“Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee”** (Jude 9). God did not leave Moses at anytime during his life or death, but buried Moses himself. God fulfilled every promise He made to Moses in life, and in death. The Bible says, **“And he buried him in a valley in the land of Moab, over against Beth-peor: but no man knoweth of his sepulchre unto this day”** (Deuteronomy 34:6).

God, who does not change, will do no less for us; if we have the faith to believe His promises are true. And seek the Kingdom of God, and His righteousness above all else. He is an ever present help in our time of need, and He will not fail us. Even though we may have failed Him, and chances are will fail Him again. The important thing is that we determine in our hearts and minds to seek Him every day. We will do this when we choose to believe His promises are true. Even when mistakes have been made that are destructive to our lives, and to those around us; we can have hope knowing that there is still a promise that remains beyond this life, which is but a vapor. The day will come when God will make good on His promise; just as He did to the thief on the cross---if we only keep believing His Word, and not lose hope in a greater promise. BME

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**THE ROSE MEMORIAL FUND**

Rose Golden believed that every inmate should receive a card or newsletter. Upon learning of her passing, an inmate requested a memorial in her honor. All funds go to mailing the monthly newsletter or sending a card to an inmate who has lost a loved one. Please make funds payable to International Christian Fellowship. Thank you.

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**International Christian Fellowship extends thanks to Johnny Plass, and Oscar Falcon for their sacrificial, monetary gifts to the Rose Memorial Fund.**

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For more information about the Rose Memorial Fund, The Illinois Prison System, Life Catalyst, Hospitality House; or if you would like to receive the newsletter by email please visit

[**http://www.inspirationalwordsforinmatesandtheirfamilies.yolasite.com/**](http://www.inspirationalwordsforinmatesandtheirfamilies.yolasite.com/)

WORDS FROM BEHIND THE WALL

TRIP TO HEAVEN

I wonder what God will want with a person who has done what I have done? Within I Corinthians 15:42-49, we learn that after we are saved our bodies are still stained by sin. Since that fleshly, dirty body will not make it past death because of its dependence of this world, we must be willing to let it go. Christ offers us a second body, which is perfect enough to be in heaven. Why else would God want something back, which had been mistreated? I don’t have to worry because Jesus thought of everything.

WHY WE SUFFER

Our suffering is allowed for us to know our humanity, and for preventing our pride. Without a human weakness, we will believe ourselves to be too good to need any help. One time, a friend who slept in the bunk next to me was explaining how for four years he had not seen his brothers, but now when he was only months from going home, they want to visit. Someone in the room called out that he needed that time to truly find the Lord. It’s true, in order for him, and myself to get to know God, we had to suffer in prison away from loved ones to realize the need. Once we are humbled to the fact that we can’t do everything, we turn to Him, who makes us strong (II Corinthians 12:7-10).

 **William Moctezuma**

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GOOD AGAINST EVIL

One day I was watching TV, and saw two wolves fighting. I started thinking about the great fight we face every day. Then I said to myself, “Okay, one is evil with anger, envy, jealousy, sorrow, regret, greed, arrogance, self-pity, guilt, resentment, inferiority, lies, false pride, superiority, and ego. While the other is good, with joy, peace, love, hope, serenity, humility, kindness, benevolence, empathy, generosity, truth, compassion, and faith”. Then the show went to a commercial. I wondered which wolf was going to win, and realized whichever one I fed.

 **Charles Moctezuma**

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MONEY DON’T BUY HAPPINESS

Life is not defined by what you have, even when you have a lot (Luke 12:15). Money can’t buy happiness! Regardless of how much you have, it’s never enough. Fear will always whisper, “Unless you get more, you won’t be secure.” If money brought happiness, the rich would be happier than everybody else. Yet, studies consistently show their happiness levels to be only slightly above average, and in many cases below it. Despite what you’ve been conditioned to think, happy people don’t follow money---they follow their passion for what gives their lives meaning. The Bible says, “Don’t be obsessed with getting material things” (Hebrews 13:5). Wealth based happiness is a weakness indulged by insecure people who are afraid to look inside, and face their real fears. It’s a mistake to think that wealth buys a life of freedom, status, or worldly power. Take freedom for example: the rich usually become wealthy by sacrificing their freedom, leisure time, and status. That’s a slippery slope too because no matter how far you climb, there’s always someone ahead of you. And worldly power, well when that increases; you really lose control of your life because of all the people you have to please, and obligations you have to fulfill. When you pursue your God-given purpose, money is secondary. Your real status symbols are salvation, spiritual growth, a happy home, treasured friends, and the incredible joy of doing what God has called you to do.

 **Brandy Holmes**

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A PRAISE REPORT

I’ve been able to release all the hate and bitterness that was destroying me. The hopelessness has turned back to hope for the future. When you write about God, and the Holy Spirit, I get goose bumps and tears in my eyes because I know what you say is true. I know that I am a good man, and that I have a kind heart. I am like you in that, we both have compassion for the downtrodden, the broken-hearted, and the poor in spirit. I know I can help some people. The ones that I can, I will. **Oscar Falcon**

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A CASE OVERTURNED AND REMANDED

Thank you again for allowing Jesus to use you in a mighty way, and I am praying that it reaches many more inmates. Thank you for accepting, and publishing my words from God. I am currently appealing my case, and hope to be out soon. I want help spread the gospel to inmates. I have found a new burden on my heart for inmates. This system has gotten out of God’s will, and persecutes the innocent falsely (Received 10/13/11). **Maurice Hall Jr.**

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**Notice was received from VINE that Maurice Hall’s conviction was overturned, and his sentence was remanded. He is no longer in the IDOC system. Please pray that he will be in a position to follow through with his burden to reach out to inmates. Also, pray for direction and purpose for Oscar Falcon.**

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**Inmates, please submit your inspirational thoughts for Words from Behind the Wall to Beth Marie Evans, C/O International Christian Fellowship, 9146 Lincoln Ave, Brookfield IL 60513. Office Phone: 708-387-9009. Thank you.**